

Jan. 27 TWENTY-ONE IN TODAY'S FLEET

BOSTON RECEIPTS TOTAL 750,000 POUNDS—PRICES ARE LOWER.

A fleet of 21 vessels furnished the dealers on the Boston fish pier with a good supply of fresh fish this morning. Fares aggregated 648,000 pounds of groundfish and 100,000 pounds of mixed fish. The market was lower. Haddock opened at \$4.50; large cod, \$4.50 and markets, \$3 to \$3.50.

The rail receipts yesterday included 2580 gallons of Virginia oysters and more than 5000 boxes of Canadian frozen smelts, the largest lot to be received in Boston on one day this season.

Boston Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and fares in detail:
Str. Breaker, 37,000 haddock, 14,000 cod, 15,000 mixed fish.
Str. Penguin, 30,000 haddock, 7000 cod.
Str. Amherst, 52,000 haddock, 10,000 cod, 8000 mixed fish.
Str. Winthrop, 36,000 haddock, 29,000 cod, 8500 mixed fish.
Str. Dartmouth, 42,000 haddock, 4500 cod, 5000 mixed fish.
Sch. Irene and Helen, 23,000 haddock, 5500 cod, 17,000 mixed fish.
Sch. Vasco da Gama, 34,000 haddock, 2000 cod, 600 mixed fish.
Sch. William L. Putnam, 20,000 haddock, 1500 cod, 8500 mixed fish.
Boat Bettina, 30,000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1400 mixed fish.
Boat Catherine F. Saunders, 5000 haddock, 2500 cod, 12,500 mixed fish.
Sch. Ruth Lucille, 16,000 haddock, 3000 cod.
Sch. Stranger, 2500 haddock, 1000 cod, 3000 mixed fish.
Sch. Babe Sears, 23,000 haddock, 4000 cod, 7000 mixed fish.
Sch. Frances C. Denehey, 33,000 haddock, 3500 mixed fish.
Sch. Mary P. Goulart, 23,000 haddock, 7000 cod, 1000 hake.
Sch. Ellen T. Marshall, 52,000 haddock, 11,000 cod, 3000 hake, 3000 cusk.
Sch. Lark, 50,000 haddock, 21,000 cod, 2000 hake, 6500 cusk.
Boat Rose Marie, 4000 haddock, 200 cod, 3100 mixed fish.
Boat Mayflower, 2500 mixed fish.
Boat Josie, 3000 mixed fish.
Boat Mary G., 1100 mixed fish.
Haddock, \$4.50 per cwt.; large cod, \$4.50; market cod, \$3 to \$3.50; hake, \$3 to \$4; pollock, \$4; cusk, \$3; gray sole, 8 cents to 10 cents per lb.; lemon sole, 11 cents; black backs, 6 cents; yellow tails, 2 cents; dabs, 1 cent; catfish, 2 cents.

N S. Pickled Fish.

A little improvement in the export demand for spring mackerel has been noticed in the past two weeks, which is appreciated by some of the exporters, who are holding quite heavy stocks. Fair quantities have been coming in recently from eastern outports and still further shipments are expected. Prices are unchanged at \$7.50 to \$7.75 ex boat.

No change is reported in No. 1 July grocery herring. The demand is reported about normal. Prices remain steady at \$8 ex store.

Owing to light demand and the fact that fair stocks are held in New Brunswick, prices of alewives are reported a shade easier. Local prices are \$4.75 to \$5 ex boat.

Jan. 27

Export herring are meeting with a fair demand. The last sale reported was at \$5.25 ex vessel.

No improvement has taken place in summer and fall mackerel. Prices are very low. It was reported recently that a sale of bloaters, fancy quality, in softwood barrels, was made in the vicinity of \$16. This is the lowest price for a number of years.

The demand for large No. 1 salmon is slow. The price is \$17 ex store.—Maritime Merchant.

N. S. Lobsters.

Everything in connection with the lobster business is particularly quiet at the present time.

Fishermen, however, are quietly preparing their traps and getting other gear in readiness for the spring season and many packers are already making tentative arrangements for the reopening of their canneries.

Very little news is available from the trade in Canada or elsewhere as to the present demand or the selling prospects for 1931.

Considerable has appeared in the press recently from local dealers, as to the need for better qualities of canned lobsters and closer cooperation between fishermen and canners during this year if the experiences of last season are to be avoided.

Most people engaged in the grocery trade are busy at the moment with their stock-taking and not until their results are known can the situation be gauged with any degree of accuracy.

Though it is known that there are still large quantities in Canada in first hands, it may be proved that there are less than usual remaining on the grocers' shelves and the one may possibly counteract the other.

Live lobster shipments are now going forward to American points from districts in the Bay of Fundy. These are bringing fair returns, though prices have not reached former levels.

For the majority of those interested, the present period is one of patiently "watching and waiting" for some signs of improvement and the hope is felt that the coming season may yet prove better than has been anticipated, even though lower prices than have prevailed for eight years past will necessarily have to be named when the packing season opens.—Maritime Merchant.

Start New Portland Light.

Construction of the new lighthouse project on the South Portland shore at a cost of \$185,000, was started yesterday by the Merritt, Chapman and Scott Corporation. The contract, which includes dredging of the channel, erection of piers and buildings, calls for completion in 10 months.

Portland Fishing News.

Eight fishing vessels arrived at Portland, Me., yesterday, with a combined catch of 37,000 pounds of groundfish. The arrivals were the Sunapee and the Alice M. Doughty II., with 8000 pounds each, Eleanor with 5000, Benjamin Thompson with 4500, Albert W. Black with 4000, Lochinvar 3500, Richard J. Nunan, 3000 and the Barbara with 1200 pounds.

Jan. 27 SIX ARRIVALS SINCE YESTERDAY

DAY'S RECEIPTS OF FRESH FISH ARE VERY LIGHT AT LOCAL FIRMS.

Receipts of fresh fish have been very light for only seven of the small draggers and trawlers made port with fares during yesterday afternoon. The entire catch of the seven arrivals amounted to 16,000 pounds, and was quickly snapped up by buyers. Seven of the gill net fleet lifted yesterday, averaging 1000 pounds each. A few of the local fleet at Boston yesterday, came down during the night to refit.

Gloucester Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and fares in detail:
Boat 703E, trawling, 2000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Rose and Lucy, dragging, 5000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Rosie P., dragging, 1000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Roma II., dragging, 3000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Little Joe, dragging, 500 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Margaret D., dragging, 2500 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Bethulia, dragging, 2000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Albert D. Willard, via Boston.

Sch. Elizabeth and Ruth, via Boston.

Sch. Marie and Winifred, via Boston.

Sch. Governor Al. Smith, via Boston.

Sch. Gertrude L. Thebaud, via Boston.

Sch. Squanto, via Boston.

Sch. Grand Marshal, via Boston.

Yesterday's Gill Net Receipts.
Boat Agnes and Myrnie, 1300 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Serafina II., 1000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Mary J. Landry, 1000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Nashawena, 1200 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Liboria C., 1000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Alicia, 1000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Ramona, 1000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sailed.

Sch. Ethel B. Penny, shore.

Sch. Magellan, shore.

Boat Col. Lindbergh, dragging.

Sch. Albert D. Willard, shore.

Mackerel Imports.

Imports of salt mackerel at Boston from June 1 to date, have been 4340 barrels as compared with 2879 barrels in 1930; 3812 barrels in 1929; 14,005 barrels in 1928 and 5688 barrels in 1927.

N. S. Dried Fish Markets.

Conditions in the dried fish trade are still bad, and with little or no hope of improvement in the near future. The causes are an excessive world supply of dried fish and a reduced purchasing capacity among the people of fish-eating countries. The former is chiefly the result of over production in Iceland, and the latter the result of the drop which has taken place in the value of sugar, coffee, rubber and many other tropical products. The case of Cuba and Brazil is an outstanding illustration of how trade in dried fish can be curtailed by poor markets for the things which those markets have to sell. The Cuban situation, incidentally, is not only difficult from an economic standpoint, but it is also politically dangerous. Mr. Mechado, the president of Cuba, is said to be sitting on the lid of a volcano which is being held in place only by his well-paid and well-fed Cuban army.

Just how the large balance of unsold fish now held by Iceland is going to be disposed of is not quite clear, but at present she and Norway are having a fight as to which can sell the lowest, and in those markets where Iceland fish are popular the price is away below production cost.

Some time ago we heard that Iceland was likely to reduce her production very considerably during 1931, but no news covering this point has come forward of late. It seems not unlikely, however, that the early rumor is true, as London bankers who have been backing the Iceland trawler industry must be pretty sick of their experience during the past season. If there was need of a Chadbourne in the sugar industry there would appear to be also need for one in the dried fish industry. How foolish it is for the different dried fish countries to be going on losing money if by coming together they can restrict production to a point where all of them might make at least a small profit. The difficulty, of course, is to bring them together. It would be a big man's job.

The only bit of encouraging news in the dried fish market today is that North Brazil has been placing some good orders with Newfoundland of late. On the other hand it must be noted that South Brazil markets are worse today than they were a month ago; and there you are.

The latest from Porto Rico is that prices of No. 1 Lunenburg fish are now \$30 per cask as compared with \$28 at the time of our last report. This price, however, is only equal to about \$4.25 per quintal Halifax for stock that cost the exporter \$5 ex vessel, Lunenburg, some time ago.

The competition of Newfoundland in Jamaica and some other West India markets is being felt quite keenly by our exporters at the present time.—Maritime Merchant.

SIX ARRIVALS IN DAY'S LIST

RECEIPTS LIGHT FOR TOTAL
AMOUNTED TO ONLY
12,000 POUNDS.

Six small draggers and trawlers made up the arrivals here this forenoon, but the boats only averaged 2000 pounds each, one trawler having but 300 pounds, while the largest landing was one of 3500 pounds. Seven gill netters fished yesterday, landing 13,000 pounds of fresh fish during the afternoon.

Gloucester Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and fares in detail:

Boat Natale II., dragging, 2000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Antonina, dragging, 3000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Roma II., trawling, 2000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Maria Concetta, trawling, 300 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Angie and Vence, dragging, 3500 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat D-229, trawling, 1200 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Vasco da Gama, via Boston.

Sch. William L. Putnam, via Boston.

Boat Bettina, via Boston.

Sch. Ruth Lucille, via Boston.

Sch. Babe Sears, via Boston.

Yesterday's Gill Net Receipts.

Boat Agnes and Myrnie, 2000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Mary A., 6000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Serafina II., 1000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Mary J. Landry, 1000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Nashawena, 1000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Liboria C., 1000 lbs. fresh fish.

Boat Alicia, 1000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sailed.

Sch. Natalie Hammond, haddocking.

Sch. Marie and Winifred, dragging.

On the Railways.

Sch. Elizabeth and Ruth is on Burnham's railways.

Fitting for Halibuting.

Capt. Courtney McDonald is fitting sch. Grand Marshal for halibuting.

Portland Fishing News.

Arrivals at the Portland fish wharves yesterday, totaling 6000 pounds of groundfish, were considered light by dealers. The Profisco brought 3000 pounds, the Elizabeth B., 3000 pounds, and the Anna C., 1000 pounds. Fares unloaded yesterday, which arrived late Monday night, were 12,000 pounds in the Rita A. Viator and similar quantity in the Fannie Belle.

Portland's fleet of fishermen were tied up at the wharves last night. Several of the schooners ventured to sea in the morning but high winds outside forced them to turn back and await favorable weather.

N. S. Fish Notes.

Determination of the fishermen of Little Dover, Guysboro county, to market their catches, is shown in an account given Dr. R. Hamer, secretary of the United Maritime Fishermen. With the carrying costs on subsidized collection boats too high, the men employed trucks for more than two months with success. Late in December snow blocked the road to the market at Canso, eight miles away. The fishermen shovelled a path for the trucks to follow. With the Canso fish plants closed down for the season this month, the fishermen were forced to haul their boats ashore.

HUB FLEET IS FAIRLY LARGE

SEVENTEEN ON HAND TODAY
WITH 670,000 POUNDS OF
FRESH FISH.

Seventeen arrivals were recorded at the Boston fish pier this morning. They brought in 466,000 pounds of groundfish and 204,000 pounds of mixed fish.

Prices held to about the same levels as have prevailed for several days. Haddock opened at \$4.50 to \$5; large cod, \$4 to \$4.25 and markets \$3.

Boston Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and fares in detail:

Str. Ebb, 37,000 haddock, 9000 cod, 17,000 mixed fish.

Str. Spray, 40,000 haddock, 18,000 cod, 40,000 mixed fish.

Str. Sea Hawk, 35,000 haddock, 5500 cod, 6000 mixed fish.

Str. Shawmut, 65,000 haddock, 3800 cod, 28,000 mixed fish.

Str. Fabia, 67,000 haddock, 6500 cod, 12,000 mixed fish.

Str. Notre Dame, 12,000 haddock, 6000 mixed fish.

Str. Fordham, 45,000 haddock, 19,000 cod, 2400 mixed fish.

Sch. Marietta B., 34,000 haddock, 8500 cod, 29,000 mixed fish.

Sch. Wamsutta, 6500 haddock, 800 cod, 7000 mixed fish.

Sch. Evelyn G. Sears, 24,000 haddock, 1500 cod, 900 mixed fish.

Sch. Geraldine and Phyllis, 17,000 haddock, 1500 cod, 500 mixed fish.

Sch. Vagabond, 8000 haddock, 700 cod, 22,000 mixed fish.

Boat Emma Marie, 18,000 mixed fish.

Boat Santina D., 5300 mixed fish.

Boat Jackson and Arthur, 3000 mixed fish.

Boat Rosie, 2700 mixed fish.

Boat Josephine S., 3300 mixed fish.

Haddock, \$4.50 to \$5 per cwt.; large cod, \$4 to \$4.25; market cod, \$3; hake, \$3; pollock, \$3.50 to \$4; cusk, \$3; gray sole, 7 cents to 8 cents; lemon sole, 10 cents; black backs, 5 cents; yellow tails, 1 1-2 cents; dab, 1 cent; shark, 5 cents; catfish, 2 1-2 cents.